Washington, DC – U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced three grants Thursday that will fund clean water and wastewater projects in Presidio, Jeff Davis and Uvalde counties.

"These Stimulus grants, totaling more than \$18 million, are going to significantly upgrade the quality of life in the communities of Presidio, Valentine and Sabinal by providing basic water and wastewater services," said Congressman Rodriguez. "In addition, because these funded projects require construction, the grants also will support new jobs and help stimulate the local economy."

The funds, announced late last year as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, or Stimulus, are being distributed through the Texas Water Development Board's Clean Water State Revolving Fund-Disadvantaged Community Program. Transparency requires that all funded projects be implemented quickly and all three projects meet that regulation.

The City of Presidio received a \$12,255,000 grant to construct a new wastewater treatment facility and extend its collection area into two nearby *colonias*. The new facility will replace the city's current one, which is at 80% capacity. Presidio currently provides water services to 1,761 residents and wastewater services to 1,431 residents.

The City of Valentine received a \$2,500,000 million grant to install a wastewater collection and treatment facility. There is currently no system in Valentine, which provides service to 77 water connections.

The City of Sabinal received a \$3,560,000 grant to construct a new wastewater treatment plant, a new lift station and a water main. Sabinal currently provides water and wastewater services to 752 connections.

"Although it is a basic public health need, so many communities in my district lack the ability to maintain and upgrade their water infrastructure systems," said Congressman Rodriguez. "These grants are a first step in making this goal a reality for many communities and I will continue to

work hard to provide this valuable financial assistance."

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